CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1-3. (cancelled)

4. (new)   A method of controlling communications among a plurality of electronic devices which communicate by using at least one of a plurality of different communication protocols, comprising steps of:

connecting the electronic devices through a multiplex transmission serial communication line which supports the plurality of different communication protocols;

allocating a frame format having a respective different header length to each of the plurality of different communication protocols used among the plurality of electronic devices; and

identifying the different communication protocols in communications on the multiplex transmission serial communication line respectively by the header lengths of the frame formats to enable coexistence of communications by the plurality of different communication protocols on the multiplex transmission serial communication line.

5. (new)   A construction machine having therein a plurality of communication-networked electronic devices which communicate by using at least one of a plurality of different communication protocols, wherein:

the electronic devices are connected through a multiplex transmission serial communication line which supports the plurality of different communication protocols;

a frame format respectively having a different header length is allocated to each of the different communication protocols used among the plurality of electronic devices; and

an electronic circuit is provided, which respectively identifies the different communication protocols in communications on the multiplex transmission serial communication line by the header lengths of the frame formats to enable coexistence of communications by the plurality of different communication protocols on the multiplex transmission serial communication line.

6. (new)   An electronic circuit in a construction machine having therein a plurality of communication-networked electronic devices which communicate by using at least one of a plurality of different communication protocols, wherein:

the electronic devices are connected through a multiplex transmission serial communication line which supports the plurality of different communication protocols;

a frame format having a respective different header length is allocated to each of the different communication protocols used among the plurality of electronic devices; and

the different communication protocols in communications on the multiplex transmission serial communication line are identified respectively by the header lengths of the frame formats to enable coexistence of communications by the plurality of different communication protocols on the multiplex transmission serial communication line.